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## The mitral annular stone: a surgical challenge

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Posterior annular calcification was excised in this 29-year old Marfan patient with severe mitral regurgitation (Fig. 1). There were pliable leaflets and posterior bony calcification. Decalcification, leaflet resection, P1–P3 sliding plasty and semirigid ring annulo-

plasty were technically successful (Fig. 2A). Heavy calcification extended over the entire annulus (Fig. 2B). Complete annular decalcification is still a surgical challenge.



Figure 1: Preoperative chest X-ray showing a radiolucent shadow suggesting mitral annular calcification (arrows).

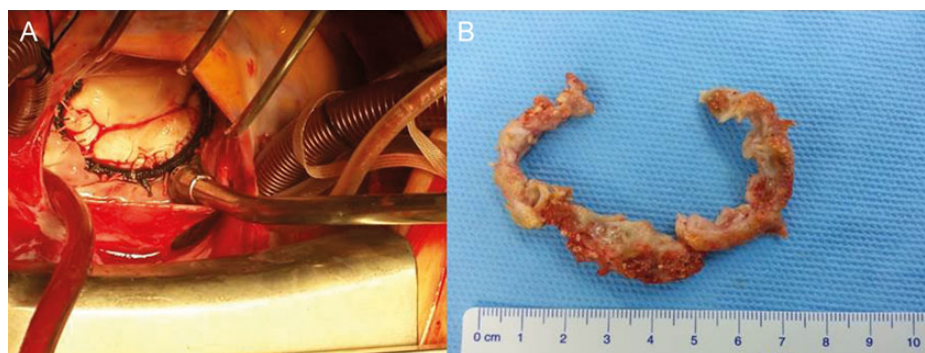


Figure 2: (A) Mitral annuloplasty with a prosthetic ring. The completed operation. (B) Gross appearance of the excised posterior annular calcification.